

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,

ENGRAVER'S DEPARTMENT,

28th September, 1885.

Sir

I have the honor to report the completion of the medal dies, "Washington before Boston." In this connection I beg leave to say, This medal has great historic value, and as the dies never came to this country the government has been unable to furnish duplicate medals from them, But as the medals were so much sought for, some years ago brass dies were cast from which copies of the medal were struck.

These dies were never anything more than a makeshift, being imperfect from the first, and are fast becoming useless from wear. I therefore have engraved steel dies, which are as near as it is possible for one artist to copy the work of another I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. A. Smith

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,

ENGRAVER'S DEPARTMENT,

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I would like to call your attention to the execution of these dies, as the originals stand among the best examples of the medallist art and I think these new dies will bear a critical comparison. There is a very interesting correspondence, showing original letters and the great interest felt in this medal at the time it was ordered by Congress, to be found on page 3 of Medallist History of the United States, which work is in your office.

I am very respectfully
 Your obedient servant
 Chas. E. Barber
 Engraver

Hon Daniel M. Fox
 Superintendent

949 1/2

Phila. Pa.

Sept 20/85

Chas. E. Barbour,
Engraver.Reports Completion of
Medals Decs, "Washington
before Boston" and
Remarks thereon.Chas. E. Barbour
Sept 20/85

Recd Sept 20/85

[Abstract:] Reports completion of Medals Dies "Washington before Boston"...

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,
Engraver's Department,
September 28, 1885

Sir

I have the honor to report the completion of the medal dies, "Washington before Boston". In this connection I beg leave to say, this medal has great historic value, and as the dies never came to this country the government has been unable to furnish duplicate medals from them. But as the medals were so much sought for, some years ago brass dies were cast from which copies of the medal were struck.

These dies were never anything more than a makeshift being imperfect from the first, and are fast becoming useless from wear, I therefore have engraved steel dies, which are as near as it is possible for one artist to copy the work of another facsimile of the original. I would like to call your attention to the execution of these dies, as the originals stand among the best examples of the medallic art, and I think these new dies will bear a critical comparison. There is a very interesting correspondence, showing original letters and the great interest felt in this medal at the time it was ordered by Congress, to be found on page 3 of Medallic History of the United States, which work is in your office.

I am very respectfully,
Your obedient servant
Chas. E. Barber
Engraver

Hon. Daniel M. Fox
Superintendent